

The Old Guard: 4-3 Warrior News

Warrior 6

Warrior Soldiers and Families,

We have survived and thrived during a brutal, busy Summer. The battalion continues to take on its assigned missions with zeal—executing to a high standard. CSM and I are fortunate to lead an organization with such talented Leaders and Soldiers, who can rely on strong Families to back them up.

The next few months will still have their share of missions to accomplish, but, we all should be able to spend a healthy amount of time with our loved ones over the holiday season.

Coming out of the holidays, we will turn our focus to preparing Infantrymen to train and test for the Expert Infantryman's Badge in March. I will provide specific details on event timings that facilitate family spectators in our semi-annual Family Command Information briefs in February at both Fort Belvoir and JB-Myer-Henderson Hall. Other topics will include the parade season and our preparations for what will prove to be an ambitious calendar for Twilight Tattoo 2011. WARRIORS!

RICH EDWARDS
Commander

Warrior 7

Warriors Soldiers and Families,

I have been assigned as the BN CSM for just over 4 months now and experienced the summer schedule of the Battalion. The Soldiers have been busy in support of "The Old Guard" and its many missions that were all performed in an outstanding manner. I have personally received many comments of gratitude and astonishment on how professional the Soldiers conduct themselves and bring credit upon the United States Army. I look forward to the next quarter as we move toward the special rotation for the holidays and then into 2011. Thank you to the families for your continued support to our Soldiers and our Battalion.

PHILLIP R. CANTRELL
Command Sergeant Major

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Alpha Company

The men of Alpha Company had a successful end to the summer season and are motivated to accomplish the missions of the fall and winter. After spending nearly the entire month of August at the DC Armory, with countless hours of rehearsal, we took the Spirit of America production on the road. This year our Soldiers brought the history of the U.S. Army and our nation to life for the citizens of Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and Grand Rapids. The tour was incredibly successful. We performed live to over 70,000 people and reached millions more via local media, live streaming shows, and daily interactions in the host cities. We'd like to send a special thanks to all the families who supported their Soldiers during our show tour. Also, we'd like to thank all the Soldiers of the 289th MP Company and all the other attachments throughout the Regiment who were essential in allowing us to conduct the show.

The company returned to Ft. McNair at the end of the September and we are already moving quickly into the missions for the fall and winter season. The missions for this fall include conducting a performance for the annual AUSA conference, training and certification for ceremonial and memorial affairs missions (including several rotations as primary for Arlington), and tactical training to maintain the readiness of our Infantry Soldiers.

In addition to performing all our regular missions to a high standard, we'd like to announce that Alpha Company was this year's winner of the Commander's Trophy during TOG Organizational Day. Congratulations to the softball and flag football teams who came in first place, and the to the volleyball team who finished in second place. At the end of the day, Alpha Company and HHC 1/3 tied with the same number of total points, but our men won the trophy by defeating HHC 1/3 in a tug-of-war match. Thanks to all the families that came out and supported us.

We would also like to welcome some of the newest members of our Alpha Company family. Congratulations go out to Michael and Amanda Lemanski who have a new baby girl, Baily Lynn, born on August 13th, weighing seven pounds one ounce. Congratulations to Derek and Samantha Hill who also have a new baby girl, Caely Jaide, born on September 2nd, weighing eight pounds ten ounces. Lastly, congratulations to Carl and Jen McElroy who have a new baby boy, Liam Mathias, born on August 9th, weighing six pounds eight ounces.

The company would also like to welcome some of our newest Soldiers and their families to the company. We welcome PFC James Roberson, PFC Dayne Ziara, and PFC Nicholas Alciati to 1st Platoon; PV1 Landis Bellot and PV2 Cody Collins to 2nd Platoon; PV2 Jonathan Marbut, SPC Joshua Miller, and SGT Richard Hobson to 3rd PLT. Lastly, we welcome CPT Erik Munn and his wife Jackie who come to us from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. CPT Munn is the new platoon leader for 3rd platoon.

Thank you again to all the families who continue to support the wonderful Soldiers of Alpha Company. Your support allows us to continue to be able to conduct our wide range of missions to the highest standard.

BRENT DITTENBER
Commander

PAUL RIEDEL
First Sergeant



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Honor Guard Company

Summer has ended and time continues to march on for The Honor Guard Company of The Old Guard. Since the last newsletter in the spring, there has been significant turn-over throughout the company. Of note, Honor Guard said goodbye to MAJ Wallace and 1SG Edney and welcomed in MAJ Swenddal and 1SG Fader. CPT Berra and SFC Lentz have been replaced in 1st PLT by CPT Edstrom and SSG Pearce. SFC Stackpole has joined CPT Southerland in 3rd PLT, and 1LT Purswell and SSG Wolfe have taken over the leadership of 2nd PLT. In addition to leadership changes, over 35 Soldiers have joined our proud ranks since May, while a much smaller number of Honor Guard stalwarts have departed to serve honorably in other capacities.

Changes in personnel aside, the last few months have seen their usual crush of summer ceremonial requirements. From Armed Forces Wreaths at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier, numerous Armed Forces Cordons at the Pentagon River Entrance, and our battle rhythm Department of the Army and General Officer retirement ceremonies, Honor Guard Soldiers have executed every tasked mission to an exceptionally high standard. Of particular significance, Honor Guard Company played a pivotal role in the Memorial Day Observances in May, the Special GO Retirement of General Stanley McCrystal, and conducted start point operations for the 2010 Army Ten-Miler.

Honor Guard continues to carve out every available opportunity on its historically busy ceremonial schedule to conduct some tactical training. Leaders down to the lowest level push daily and weekly training on basic tactical tasks and collectively the company conducted Battle Drill training at Lorton Prison in July and marksmanship training in September at Ft AP Hill. Continued marksmanship and land navigation training is planned for the second week of December in anticipation of the Regiment's planned Expert Infantryman's Badge (EIB) testing in March 11.

Of course, everything we accomplish as a unit is made possible by the support of our families, whether they be spouses, children, parents or guardians. Our Soldiers' support systems outside of their work, play a pivotal role in our Soldiers' well-being and ultimately in our mission accomplishment. We would like to thank those families for their continued support of our Soldiers on a daily basis and allowing them to serve our great unit, our Army, and our nation.

As we look ahead to the coming winter months, the memorial affairs and ceremonial mission requirements show no sign of letting up. In challenging times such as these, it will come down to every Soldier doing their part to ensure the unit's mission accomplishment. The Soldiers and leaders throughout the company are beginning to internalize what it means to be part of an elite unit, and all have shown an increasing level of proficiency, cohesion, and strength of character that will last us through the missions ahead. We encourage all Honor Guard Soldiers to continue to challenge themselves and their fellow Soldiers, to strive to make this unit better every day, to continue to accomplish every mission to a high standard, and to live honorably on a daily basis. Remember, that to us, Honor is verb and not a noun, it is something we do and the way in which we live, not a thing which is granted to us by right or dispensation.

It has been a privilege to command and lead this company these last few months and we look forward to our continued growth as individuals and as a unit.

Honor Guard!!!

MAJ JEREM SWENDDAL
Commander

JOHN FADER
First Sergeant



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289th MP Company

The Soldiers of the 289th Military Police Company and 947th MP Detachment are coming off an extremely busy summer as they transition into the fall. The unit kicked off the summer by certifying the Special Reaction Team. This event culminated eight months of strenuous training for the 15 Soldier team. SSG Rice, the team NCOIC, can now be confident in his team to execute any assigned mission from Ft. Hamilton, NY to Ft. AP Hill, VA.

After the SRT certification, another specialized element was working hard on introducing a new capability to MDW. The 947th MP Det, equipped with Urban Search and Rescue (USR) Dogs attended a training event with the 911 Engineer Company at the Center for National Response in West Virginia. This training demonstrated the USR Dogs' capability to detect the presence of live humans buried under piles of rubble. SFC McEnaney, the handler of USR Dog Beppi, continues to train on this skill set and recently participated in the Capitol Shield training exercise.

Later in the Summer, 289th MP Co led the German Military Proficiency Badge event. This series of tactical and physical tasks provided the opportunity for Soldiers across the battalion to partner with locally stationed German Soldiers and earn a foreign award. The final event, a seven mile march, concluded in Reston, VA at the Bundeswehr Headquarters, complete with beer, bratwurst, and a German band. Families and Soldiers enjoyed the camaraderie and partnership with these allied Soldiers.

Speaking of families, the 289th MP Company and the Unit/Family Readiness Group hosted a fun and games night in August to give everyone a break from the busy schedule of the previous months. Spouses Stacy Starr and Lacey Petrone worked hard in the weeks leading up to the event to ensure everyone would have a great time. Soldiers and family members could participate in games inspired by the "Minute to Win It" TV Game show to earn tickets. At the end of the night, several prizes were auctioned off including a Nintendo Wii.

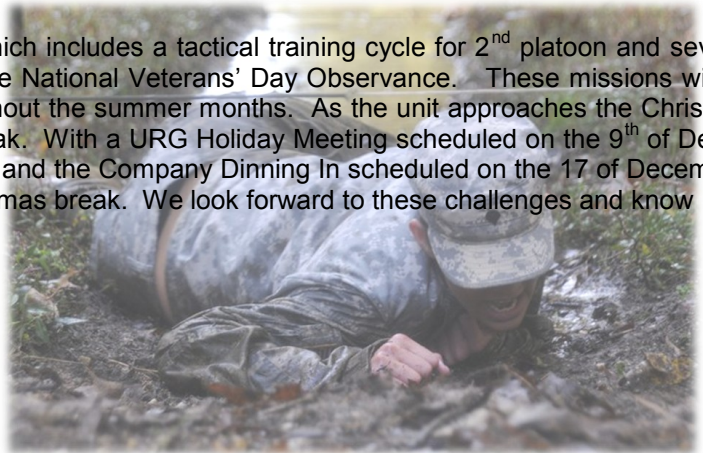
Shortly after the fun and games night, the company said good bye to several Soldiers that would spend the next month supporting Spirit of America. In all, 15 Soldiers from the company supported the show either as actors with speaking roles or on the crew. SPC Sutton represented the unit well as the Broom Team Commander, bringing smiles to the faces of the thousands that watched the show.

While many Soldiers were inspiring citizens at Spirit of America, the 289th MP Company MP Warfighter Team spent a week in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO competing against some of the best MP teams in the Army at the 69th Anniversary MP Warfighter Competition. CPL Vasquez, SPC Tharp, and SPC Bartholomew gave dominating performances throughout the competition coming in second in the combatives tournament and first in the 15 mile road march event. Overall the team placed fourth out of 34 teams.

Now the unit is transitioning to the fall schedule which includes a tactical training cycle for 2nd platoon and several high profile events such as the Army Ten Miler and the National Veterans' Day Observance. These missions will continue to take the effort and motivation displayed throughout the summer months. As the unit approaches the Christmas Holiday, it will undoubtedly be time to take a short break. With a URG Holiday Meeting scheduled on the 9th of December, the TOG Christmas Party on the 11th of December and the Company Dinning In scheduled on the 17 of December, it is certain we will remain busy right up until that Christmas break. We look forward to these challenges and know that our Soldiers will soon get the rest they deserve.

MICHAEL CAPPS
Commander

JOHN EASTWOOD
First Sergeant



*4th Battalion, 3rd US Infantry Regiment
The Old Guard*

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Hammer Company

The summer of 2010 was very busy for Hammer Soldiers. We saw another Twilight Tattoo Season, Spirit of America, and numerous ceremonies and events. Hammer Soldiers both supported and participated in these events making them successful all the way around. Our Soldiers continue their support for 4th Battalion whether it is through their specific staff function, guarding the Unknowns in Arlington, or representing the Army through precision drill. Hammer Soldiers continue to work hard and even as we come off a successful Army Ten Miler weekend our attentions turn toward the upcoming Veterans Day observances.

In April and May of this year Soldiers in the Army Drill Team, S-6 Commo Section, S-3 Operations, and of course the S-4 Logistics Section, all lent their energies to making Twilight Tattoo successful. Our company did a total of 11 performances from Arlington to Frederick, MD, and of course at Ft McNair in DC. This hard work and professionalism then poured into Spirit of America from Pittsburgh, PA all the way out to Michigan. Our Soldiers did extremely well at each venue and the entire production represented our Army and country very well.

In June the company said goodbye to CPT Ramos and his family as they welcomed their new commander CPT Tim Garland and his wife Katrina. CPT Garland was serving in the S-3 section prior to taking over and is happy to be in command.

Soldiers guarding the Tomb of the Unknowns made their way through a very busy summer season of wreath ceremonies and events. Dignitaries from Israel to Mexico paid their respects under the watchful eye of our sentinels. This year the platoon and company has said goodbye to SFC Lanier and welcomed SFC McCann as the new Sergeant of the Guard. Other sentinels who made their last walks this year include SPC Hull, SPC Holt, SGT Obrosky, & SPC Mancha. We wish them and their families the best of luck as they continue their careers at other posts. The platoon has also shared in the joy of recognizing our newest badge awardees – SGT Williams, SGT Wimbush, PFC Hara, SPC Alrusan, SSG Badoux. Congratulations to them and their families for this rare achievement.

The United States Army Drill team has had a busy summer performing in front of thousands of fans. The Soldiers caught the attention of tourist, locals, and school children through their performances in Twilight Tattoo. Additionally, the Drill team was honored to perform for Soldiers at Forts Hood, Bliss, and Carson. Locally the Drill team performed for many military and civic organizations in order to return thanks to those that serve our country. The month of August was spent in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Michigan with an impressive 20 Soldier Drill that resulted in overwhelming applause and praise from the crowds. This fall brings some well deserved respite to members of the Drill Team as they attend WLC, Airborne, and Air Assault Schools. The pace will pick up again in January with the All American Bowl in San Antonio, and then a performance for the Daytona 500 in February.

Just recently the company has had a number of births as we close out the nine month window since the big snow storms in February. Congratulations to the following Soldiers and their wives - PFC Brown, SSG Harn, SSG Brisiel, SPC Everill, SPC Klein, CPT Sucec, SGT Pierce, and SSG Badoux.

Looking ahead as we continue into November and December the Soldiers of HHC will train to proficiency on the M240B machine gun. The company will execute two ranges and prepare Soldiers for both future assignments and the upcoming EIB event in February. In December the entire battalion will take off for a long deserved break that will lead into the beginning of January.

TIM GARLAND
Commander

RAYMOND S. HARRIS
First Sergeant

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Fife and Drum Corps

As 2010 closes, The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps looks back on our 50th Anniversary and the long summer season that kept us traveling and busy as we commemorated five decades of commitment and service to our Nation and the Army. For FDC, we'll hold this year in the history books for exciting TDYs and unforgettable performances. Ranging from our Anniversary Muster Tour that led us through six states, to our Anniversary Tattoo held in our very own Conmy Hall, the year was full.

As anyone in The Old Guard will tell you, there's no more fitting way to honor those who served and those who continue to serve than laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. In keeping with this tradition, the Fife and Drum Corps placed a wreath on 23 February – officially starting our 50th Anniversary year.

Following closely behind, and spanning the entire summer, was the Corps' Anniversary Muster tour. This series of TDY missions allowed us to retell the Army story and touch the lives of hundreds of thousands of spectators throughout the Nation.

Taking place in June, and perhaps the biggest mission FDC undertook, was the Anniversary Tattoo. The event, which was held on Joint Base Myer Henderson Hall, brought together such premier musical ensembles as The Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, The West Point "Hellcats", and the Fifes and Drums of Colonial Williamsburg. With the production being professionally directed by FDC personnel alongside AMVID (Army Multimedia and Information Directorate), the show filled Conmy Hall completely at 1,500 spectators. The Fife and Drum Corps also reached out to an additional 500 viewers via the Tattoo's live web streaming of the event – breaking AKO's record of any live webcast previously set.

Closing out our year, and one of the Corps' perennial favorites, was the Old Guard Juniors' Workshop. This 3-day event invited 100 young and aspiring fifers and drummers from around the Nation to come and learn more about the art of music and Army traditions while being taught by FDC soldiers. Seeing the interactions between our soldiers and the junior musicians was inspirational and a true telling of the next generation of Americans.

The past 6 months for The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps was a true homage to those that served in the Corps' 50-year history. As we progress into our 51st year, we remember our past five decades but more importantly look to the bright future of the next.

FREDERICK ELLWEIN
Commander

GREGORY ROCK
Corps Sergeant Major

*4th Battalion, 3rd US Infantry Regiment
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Chaplain's Corner

We welcome SGT Tiann Smith, the new 4/3 Chaplain's Assistant, and SSG Truvy, the unit ministry dog. They've already proven themselves to be great assets to the team.

We stayed busy this summer with marriage retreats in Williamsburg, while our Single Soldiers rock climbed, rappelled, and rafted the white waters of New River Gorge, WV. More trips begin Feb. 4th.

Wednesdays during lunch we host a Bible study for all interested TOG Soldiers. We meet in the 1/3 BN Conference room on Fort Myer. Lunch is provided at no charge. Come enjoy an informal time of fellowship and food.

For Soldiers and Spouses with children who want marriage counseling but can't make it to Ft. Myer, give us a call to set up a home visit. We keep a limited number of slots available.

J. Clark Sneed
Battalion Chaplain
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John.c.sneed@us.army.mil

SGT Tiann
Smith
Chaplain Assistant
703-696-4365



Upcoming Events

11 NOV

National Veterans Day Observance Ceremony in Arlington National Cemetery at 11:00 AM

12-25 NOV

Society of the Honor Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers Reunion

12-15 NOV

Curtailed Operations*

15 NOV

Armed Forces Full Honors Arrival Rehearsal in honor of the Chairman of Defense of Israel

16 NOV

Armed Forces Full Honors Arrival in honor of the Chairman of Defense of Israel

16-19 NOV

Squad Maneuver Training 289th

17-18 NOV

HHC NCO M240B Range at FT AP Hill Concurrent Training

18 NOV

Department of the Army Retirement Ceremony

19 NOV

General Officer Retirement Ceremony

22-24 NOV

A Co in Memorial Affairs Primary

23 NOV

Regimental Thanksgiving Meal

25-28 NOV

Curtailed Operations for Thanksgiving

29 NOV-3 DEC

289th Range Density at FT AP Hill

01-02 DEC

HHC 4/3 conducts land Navigation at Ft Belvoir

01 DEC

A Co Change of Command at 10:00 AM (tentative)

02 DEC

Armed Forces Full Honors Arrival in honor of Chairman of Defense of Egypt

4 DEC

Fife and Drum Corps 50th Anniversary Retrospect Concert in Brucker Hall

06-10 DEC

E Co Range Density (M4, SAW, M240B, M203, 9MM) at FT AP Hill

08-09 DEC

HHC 7.62 weapons familiarization at FT AP Hill

11 DEC

TOG Christmas Party at Conmy Hall (tentative location)

15 DEC

Army Full Honors Arrival ceremony for Minister of Defense Russia

16 DEC

Department of the Army Retirement ceremony

17 DEC

General Officer Retirement ceremony (tentative)

17-29 DEC

4th BN Holiday Memorial Affairs Operations in Arlington National Cemetery

24-27 DEC

Curtailed Operations*

31 DEC- 3 JAN

Curtailed Operations*

4-14 JAN

Continental Color Guard, US Army Drill Team All American Bowl 2011 in San Antonio, Texas

14-17 JAN

Curtailed Operations*

19 JAN

State of the Union Address

27 JAN

Department of the Army Retirement Ceremony

28 JAN

General Officer Retirement Ceremony (tentative)

31 JAN-19 FEB

US Army Drill Team Isolation Training (tentative)

*Curtailed Operations means that only mission essential personnel will need to report to work